

Dear Readers,

It's time once again for another issue of the IASA journal. My first issue as editor! I feel very lucky to have the opportunity to work with the current board members on issues that not only concern the membership but the preservation field as a whole. I've already learned so much from their experience and knowledge.

As always I present to you an exciting and informative journal issue. Brecht Declercq writes an interesting companion piece to my own article from issue 38. He focuses on error statistics within a large collection of DATs as they pertain to age and brand. The research strives to ascertain whether it is necessary to assign a priority to certain DATs to be ingested and if so, how do you decide this priority? Does age and brand fit into these preservation/digitization criteria? Brecht compiled the research during the ingest of the VRT's Dive Project.

Kurt Deggeller's article was not only presented at the last IASA conference in Frankfurt but also at the annual conference of SEAPAVAA and the meeting of the Co-ordinating Council of Audiovisual Archives Associations in March 2011 in Kuala Lumpur. He explores the benefits of networking and co-operation between Audiovisual Archives and International Organizations. During his time as convener of the Coordinating Council of Audiovisual Archives Associations, Kurt saw not only how important networking is for our community but also how splitting our already small community into 6 associations can limit our power within the larger archives, library and museum organizations. The organizations discussed include UNESCO, The International Committee for the Blue Shield (ICBS), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the International Organizations of Libraries, Archives, Museums, Monuments & Sites (LAMMS).

Siobhan Hagan and Jacob Nadal did not present at the Frankfurt conference but are in the beginning stages of developing an audiovisual program at the University of California Los Angeles. I feel that many members can benefit from reading about the challenges and solutions they find while building an audiovisual program from the ground up.

I will admit that Bertram Lyon's Report on the Survey of Memory and Cultural Heritage Resources in Lucas do Rio Verde was one of my favorites. I enjoyed taking a peek into the repositories of this small area in Brazil. It was a chance to examine cultural preservation from a different perspective. Bertram explores questions about the nature of documentation, about how young towns develop cultural heritage infrastructure, and about what the answers to such questions contribute to assumptions about historical documentation and to the larger international discourse on preservation and access to records of the past.

Dave Rice asks us to reconsider the checksum for audiovisual preservation. So many archivists either don't fully understand checksums or take for granted that simply creating a checksum will be enough safeguard their digital files. Dave provides a systematic approach to what to do when the checksum has changed. Follow-up questions include: Does the change affect the presentation of audiovisual data? Where is the change? How extensive is the change? Do these two different files present the same audiovisual data, i.e. is one file a lossless representation of the other? Furthermore, he questions very nature of using checksum as best practices for large audio files.

Finally, Toby Seay assesses the migration workflow for analogue multi-track audiotapes and discusses media assessment, playback preparation, digitization, file management, ephemeral document capture, and metadata entry in the context of both technical and time resources. Each track is a unique element with its own metadata requirements. How are these unique elements preserved and managed in relation to the whole and each other, and how much time should an archivist set aside for the entire process from digitization to file management?

I hope you all enjoy this journal issue! Please don't forget that the annual conference will be here before we know it. It's a chance to learn from experts in the field, reconnect with old friends, and meet new ones. New Delhi will certainly prove to be an exciting adventure for us all. See you there!

Yours truly,
Cassandra Gallegos
Editor IASA